

AI-I-B-027 Whitfield Farmhouse
East of Swain Rd.
Bellegrove, Allegany County, MD
Eligible, Criterion C

This site was inaccessible due to a snowy, muddy, deeply rutted farm drive. Therefore the following description is based on the Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form.

This two story frame farmhouse comprises a six bay long main section facing north and a three bay ell extending from the west end of the south side or rear of the structure. Each section is two bays deep and covered by a metal clad gable roof. The structure features German siding and 2/2 sash windows. The gable ends are covered with diagonal siding at the attic level.

The house stands on a rubble stone foundation. Two interior brick chimneys heat the dwelling; one at the east end of the main section and one at the south end of the ell. The porch covering the entire first story of the main facade has posts and a balustrade that appear to be original. A porch at the south end of the ell's west side is similarly finished. Entrances in the front are located in the second, third, and fifth bays from the east end. Another door is situated near the center of the south side. The ell has entrances on the east and west sides.

The Whitfield Farmhouse is believed to have been built by Jeremiah Whitfield shortly after the turn of the century. It is an especially large and well built example of a vernacular farmhouse from the end of the nineteenth or early twentieth century. This building reflects unusual prosperity in a hilly area where farming can be difficult.

If this farmhouse remains in the same condition as at the time of the MHT survey it is recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places based on integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Prepared by Merry Stinson		MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligible by <u>Paul S. Reed and Associates, Inc.</u>		Eligibility Not Recommended <u>XX</u>	
Criteria: <u>105 N. Potomac St.</u>		Considerations: <u>A</u> <u>B</u> <u>C</u> <u>D</u> <u>E</u> <u>F</u> <u>G</u> <u>None</u>	
<u>Hagerstown, MD 21740</u>			
Comments: <u>301-739-2070</u>			
3/00			
Reviewer, OPS: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>6/1/2000</u>		
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>6/6/00</u>		

Am

Whitfield Farmhouse
AL-1-B-027

Whitfield Farmhouse is located in eastern Allegany County where the mountainous terrain and "submarginal soil" made farming "a risky undertaking at best." Farming was an important part of the county's economy well into the 20th century. Jeremiah Whitfield had this large farmhouse built on his farm in the valley between Town Hill and Sideling Hill shortly after the turn of the century. The house is a reflection of the prosperity achieved farming the area.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-1-B-027
0106875704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Whitfield Farmhouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER East of Swain Road Sixth

CITY, TOWN Bellegrove ☒ VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Allegany COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME George H. Hartley Telephone #: 478-2256

STREET & NUMBER Route 1

CITY, TOWN Little Orleans ☐ VICINITY OF STATE zip code Maryland 21766**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Registry of Deeds, ETC. Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 393
Folio #: 139

STREET & NUMBER 30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN Cumberland STATE Maryland 21502

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

A.L.-I-B-027

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Whitfield Farmhouse originally consisted of a rectangular structure six bays wide and two and a half stories tall. A frame addition on the south has given the building an "L" shape. Walls are of frame construction covered with german siding except under the front porch roof where there is shiplap siding and in the gable ends where there is diagonal shiplap siding. The addition is covered with shiplap siding.

The building rests on a low random rubble stone foundation with a plain water table. The gable flank roof is covered with corugated tin or aluminum. Th eaves consist of a simple cornice, sloped soffit frieze.

Wall features include cornerboards. There are two brick chimneys. One on the original is located inside end. The other is located inside end of the addition and has an elaborately corbeled cap.

Two of the three entrances on the northern facade have four paneled wooden doors. The other is a nine light glass and frame door. A shouldered wooden door on the southern facade also has four wooden panels. Of the two entrances on the addition the one on the west is hooded. Wooden sash windows are pegged with two over two lights, wooden lugsills, and simply pedimented frames.

The front porch has a shed roof supported by nine chamfered posts and a lintel decorated with bargeboard. A fluted rail has chamfered balusters.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Whitfield Farmhouse is located in an **isolated** part of Allegany County where the mountainous terrain and "submarginal soil" made farming "a risky undertaking at best". (1) Despite the hardships of the way of life, "farming maintained its level of importance during the first two decades of the 20th century." (2) Farmers did prosper in the valleys between the mountains. Jeremiah Whitfield farmed part of the valley between Sideling Hill and Town Hill. The large house he had built shortly after the turn of the century is a reflection of the prosperity that could be achieved farming the region. (3) It is a large frame house built to accommodate a traditionally large farming family.

(1) Harry Stegmaier, et al. Allegany County - A History
(Parson, W. Va.: McClain Printing Co.) P312

(2) Ibid, p.222

(2) Telephone interview with George H. Hartley, May 1, 1979

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

AL-I-B-027

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stegmaier, Harry et al., Allegany County-A History (Parsons, W.Va.
McClain Printing Co. p.312

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

126.7 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

David A. Dorsey, Historic Sites Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Sirvey

DATE

May 2, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3 Pershing Street

TELEPHONE

777-5944

CITY OR TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland 21502

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



AL-1-B-027
WHITFIELD FARMHOUSE
SWAIN RD BELLE GROVE
US GS Belle Grove Quad
1951



AL - I - B - 027

WHITFIELD FARMHOUSE

SWAIN RD. BELLE GROVE

DAVID A. DORSEY

8/2/78

Southeast



AL-1-B-027

WHITFIELD FARMHOUSE

Swain Rd. Belle Grove

David A. Dorsey

8/2/78

East



AL-1-B-027

WHITFIELD FARMHOUSE
SWAIN RD BELLE GROVE

DAVID A. DORSEY

8/2/79

Northwest